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10/814,845	03/30/2004	Peter E. Hart	20412-08457	6503
76137	7590	06/26/2008	EXAMINER	
RICOH/FENWICK			THOMPSON, JAMES A	
SILICON VALLEY CENTER				
801 CALIFORNIA STREET			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's proposed amendments, particularly to claims 59-62, alter the scope of claims 59-62 and would therefore require further consideration and/or further search. Therefore, Applicant's proposed amendments are not entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 27 May 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding page 9, line 2 to page 11, line 13:

Applicant argues that Gulko (US PGPub 2003/0177240 A1) fails to disclose determining whether the printer will interact with the external processing system as a master or as a slave to process the one or more tasks, the determination based on a policy stored in association with the one or more tasks.

Examiner replies that paragraph 50 of Gulko states, *inter alia*:

“The user writes call-backs that supply the main logic of the portion(s) being parallelized to the application 60. Software in accordance with the preferred embodiment uses these call-backs to drive the application, controlling work break-up, distribution to remote compute resources, and the gathering of results. Specifically, basic decomposition functions are used to break-up computational processes in the application 60 into portions that can be run independently of or dependently on one another (i.e., the portions can be individual libraries, dlls, or executables), allocating the portions to slave processors, and gathering the results to produce an answer.”

This portion of paragraph 50 of Gulko demonstrates master-slave processing due to the fact that, in one disclosed possibility, the computational processes are decomposed into portions that can run dependently on one another and portions are allocated to slave processors. The allocation to slave processors inherently suggests that there is a master processor. Paragraph 53 of Gulko provides greater details of how the user sets the master-slave processing and sets the policies used to determine the master-slave processing. Policy setting occurs *via* interaction with the user interface layer. Paragraph 47 of Gulko provides further details of how the user interacts with the parallel processing system.

Regarding page 11, line 14 to page 12, line 5:

Applicant argues that the combination does not disclose receiving user input indicating selection of one or more media processing resources.

Examiner replies that Sugiyama does teach receiving user input indicating selection of one or more media processing resources, as specifically recited in claim 57. Column 3, lines 41-50 of Sugiyama

states demonstrates user selection, through the use of key inputs, of various fuctions including memory capture, memory deletion, printing, group conditioning, and group character input. Each of these functions directly requires the utilization of corresponding media processing resources. Memory capture and memory deletion requires the access of image memory and either writing or deleting said image memory. Printing requires the use of print media, ink, and other resources that relate to printing. Group conditioning and group character input requires the use of image memory, image display, and so on. Thus, user key selection corresponds to user selection of particular media processing resources.

Regarding page 12, line 6 to page 13, line 13:

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 repeats arguments made with respect to the same basic limitations found in claim 57. Thus, Applicant's arguments are fully addressed by Examiner's response set forth above.

Regarding page 13, line 14 to page 14, line 5:

Since claims 1 and 57 have been shown to be obvious over the combination of Sugiyama and Gulko, the remaining claims cannot therefore be deemed allowable merely due to their respective dependencies.

Regarding page 14, lines 6-12:

Examiner has demonstrated that all claims have been properly rejected. Accordingly, the final rejection of 25 March 2008 is maintained.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Thompson whose telephone number is (571)272-7441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Edward L. Coles/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/James A Thompson/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

10 June 2008